

A circular black ink stamp from the Intellectual Property Office (IPO). The text "O I P E" is curved along the top inner edge, "J C C 3 4" is curved along the right inner edge, and "P A T E N T & T R A D E M A R K O F F I C E" is curved along the bottom inner edge. In the center, the date "D E C 0 9 2 0 0 3" is stamped in a straight line.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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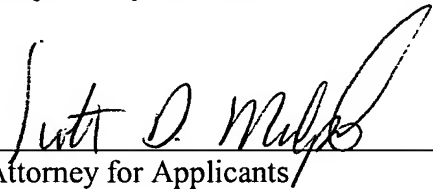
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CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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SDM/vmm

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Submitted to the PTO: December 9, 2003				ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017671		APPLICATION NO. 10/693,105	
				APPLICANTS TAKESHI YAKOU, ET AL.			
				FILING DATE October 27, 2003			GROUP Unassigned
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,285,977	09/2001	Miyazaki	703	26	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		7-6142	01/1995	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.